GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ATOMIC ENERGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4002
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2016
Foreign Companies in Nuclear Projects
Kataria Shri Rattan Lal

Will the Minister of ATOMIC ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of foreign companies which have shown interest in the nuclear power projects in India;

(b) the amount of funds likely to be invested by these companies including the names of projects for which these companies have shown interest in investment;

(c) whether the nuclear energy will become available for the consumers at affordable rates in view of the above investment and if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d)the number of jobs likely to be generated with the arrival of foreign companies in atomic energy sector?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR, PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND PRIME MINISTER''S OFFICE (DR. JITENDRA SINGH):

(a)Several foreign companies from various countries including Westinghouse Electric Company (WEC) and GE-Hitachi, United States of America (USA), Electricite de France (EDF), France and Rosatom, Russia have shown interest in participating in the country's nuclear power projects in various capacities as technology partners, suppliers, contractors, service providers, etc.

(b)As per the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Policy of the Government, FDI is not permitted in nuclear power sector. Thus, foreign companies cannot invest in nuclear power. Nuclear power projects to be set up with foreign technical cooperation are planned to be funded by a mix of equity and debt, with equity to be mobilized from internal resources of Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL), Joint Venture companies between NPCIL and other
Central Public Sector Undertakings and Government budgetary support. Foreign companies can however, invest in the supply chain for nuclear power projects.

(c)The current nuclear power tariffs range from Rs.0.97 to Rs.3.89 per unit, and are affordable and competitive. The tariffs of future projects also would be ensured to be viable.

(d)Every twin unit nuclear power station would generate a direct employment of about 850 comprising engineers, supervisors, technicians and other personnel. In addition, indirect employment for thousands of people would be generated with suppliers, contractors, service providers, etc. The resultant increase in economic activity would open up opportunities for various businesses and will result in further employment generation.
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